



Florida Department of
Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Traffic Crash Facts 2000



A Compilation of Motor Vehicle Crash Data
From the Florida Crash Records Database



State of Florida
**DEPARTMENT OF
HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES**

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0500

FRED O. DICKINSON
Executive Director

April 5, 2001

Dear Reader:

I am pleased to present the *2000 Florida Crash Facts Report*. This report contains data from the department's crash database, compiled from traffic crash reports completed by state and local law enforcement agencies.

While progress has been made in reducing deaths, injuries and economic losses on Florida's highways, we continue to strive for improvement. Despite increases in the motoring environment, the mileage death rate remained at 2.1 per 100 million vehicle miles of travel for the fourth consecutive year; however, alcohol-related fatalities increased by 4.6 percent. Areas that either improved or experienced no measurable increase during 2000 include:

- *64.5 percent of drivers using safety belts avoided injury*
- *76 percent of children under 4 years of age avoided injuries by being properly restrained and 73 percent of children 4-5 years of age avoided injury by being properly restrained*
- *Florida had the lowest number of bicyclists killed (83) since 1987*

The tables in this report are used to assist traffic safety experts, researchers, statisticians, law enforcement, and the public in understanding problems and identifying solutions that will ultimately aid in reducing deaths and injuries from motor vehicle crashes. This information is also available on the department's web site <http://www.hsmv.state.fl.us>. Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the DHSMV Office of Management Research and Development at (850) 488-4300.

On behalf of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, we hope you will find this publication useful.

Sincerely,

Fred O. Dickinson
Executive Director

2000 FLORIDA TRAFFIC CRASH STATISTICS

Traffic crashes	246,541
Drivers involved	369,875
Average crashes per day	674
Mileage Death Rate (per 100 million VM)	2.1
Fatalities	2,999
Fatal crashes	2,733
Injuries	231,588
Injury crashes	144,096
Property damage only crashes	99,712
Alcohol-related fatalities	979
Alcohol-related injuries	19,775
Alcohol-related crashes	23,578
Alcohol-related fatal crashes	882
Alcohol-related injury crashes	12,064
Pedestrians killed	506
Pedestrians injured	7,782
Pedestrian crashes	8,454
Bicyclists killed	83
Bicyclists injured	4,618
Bicycle crashes	5,054
Motorcyclists killed	227
Motorcyclists injured	4,474
Motorcycle crashes	5,073

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Traffic Crash report Form

Source of Data

2000 Florida Traffic Crash Facts

The information contained in this Traffic Crash Facts booklet is extracted from law enforcement agency long-form reports of traffic crashes. A law enforcement officer must submit a long-form crash report when investigating:

- Motor vehicle crashes resulting in death or personal injury, or
- Motor vehicle crashes in which one or more of the following conditions occur:

Leaving the scene involving damage to an attended vehicle or property (Section 316.061 (1), F.S.);

Driving while under the influence of alcoholic beverages, chemical substances, or controlled substances or with an unlawful blood alcohol level (Section 316.193, F.S.).

An investigating officer may report other traffic crashes on the long-form crash report. In particular, applicable statutes specify an officer's discretion to submit a long-form report in crashes where a vehicle is rendered inoperable to the degree that a wrecker is required to remove it from traffic.

Statutory revisions in 1983 and 1989 reduced the number of non-injury crashes required to be reported to the Department. Any presentation of historical data that includes such crashes, such as total traffic crash counts, will reflect these changes. Data on traffic crashes involving death, injury, or other criteria for law enforcement long-form reports as outlined above are not affected.

Please Note:

All 1992 data in this publication have been updated from preliminary figures published in the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Traffic Crash Data, 1992. Figures from the 1992 publication should not be used for year-to-year comparisons.

Definition of Terms

2000 Florida Traffic Crash Facts

The following terms are defined as they apply to the crash data presented in this publication. These definitions may differ from legal or other uses of the same terms.

Alcohol-related traffic crash	A crash involving a driver and/or pedestrian for whom alcohol use was reported (does not presume intoxication).
Bicycle	A vehicle propelled solely by human power or a motorized bicycle propelled by a combination of human power and an electric helper motor rated at 200 watts or less (this term does not include a vehicle with a seat height less than 26 inches from the ground when the seat is adjusted to its highest position, or a scooter or similar device).
Bicyclist	The driver of a bicycle. A passenger on a bicycle is considered a vehicle passenger.
Driver	Unless otherwise indicated, the operator of a motor vehicle or bicycle. Driver data typically exclude uninjured persons presumed to have been operating hit-and-run, phantom, or properly parked vehicles.
Fatal traffic crash	A traffic crash that results in one or more fatalities within thirty days of occurrence.
First harmful event	The first damage-producing event in a traffic crash.
Injury	Hurt, damage, or loss sustained by a person as a result of a traffic crash.
Possible injury	No visible signs of injury but complaint of pain or momentary unconsciousness.
Non-Incapacitating injury	Any visible injuries such as bruises, abrasions, limping, etc.
Incapacitating injury	Any visible signs of injury from a crash or person(s) who had to be carried from the scene.
Total injury	The sum of possible, non-incapacitating, and incapacitating injuries.
Injury crash	A traffic crash that results in one or more injuries that is not fatal.
Moped	A motor-powered cycle with a pedal-activated motor and two brake horsepower maximum.
Motor vehicle	Any motorized vehicle not operating on rails.

Pedestrian Fatality Trend

2000 Florida Traffic Crash Facts

Chart 3

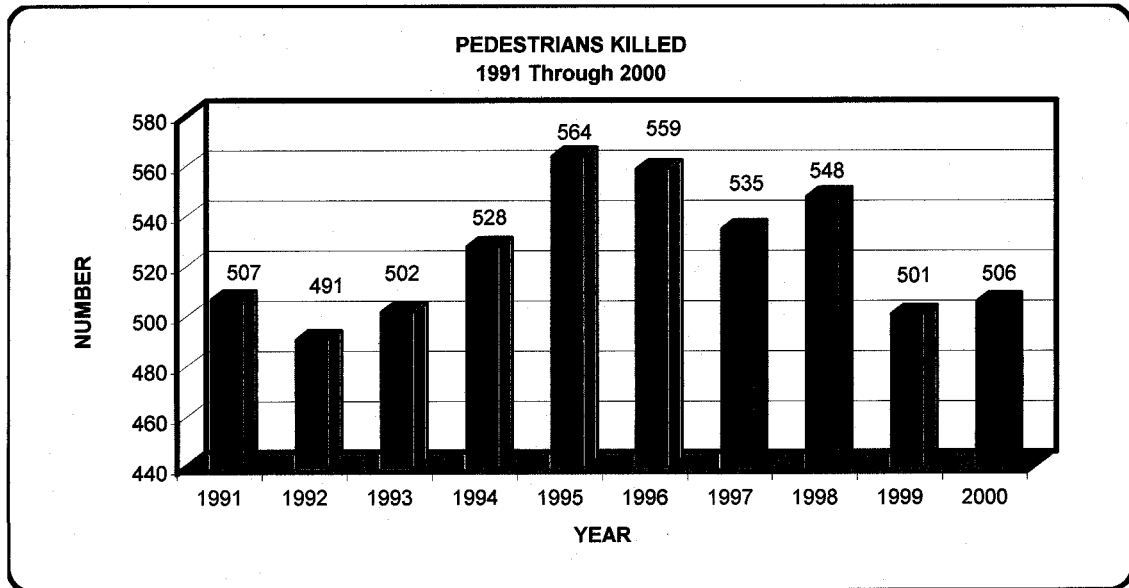
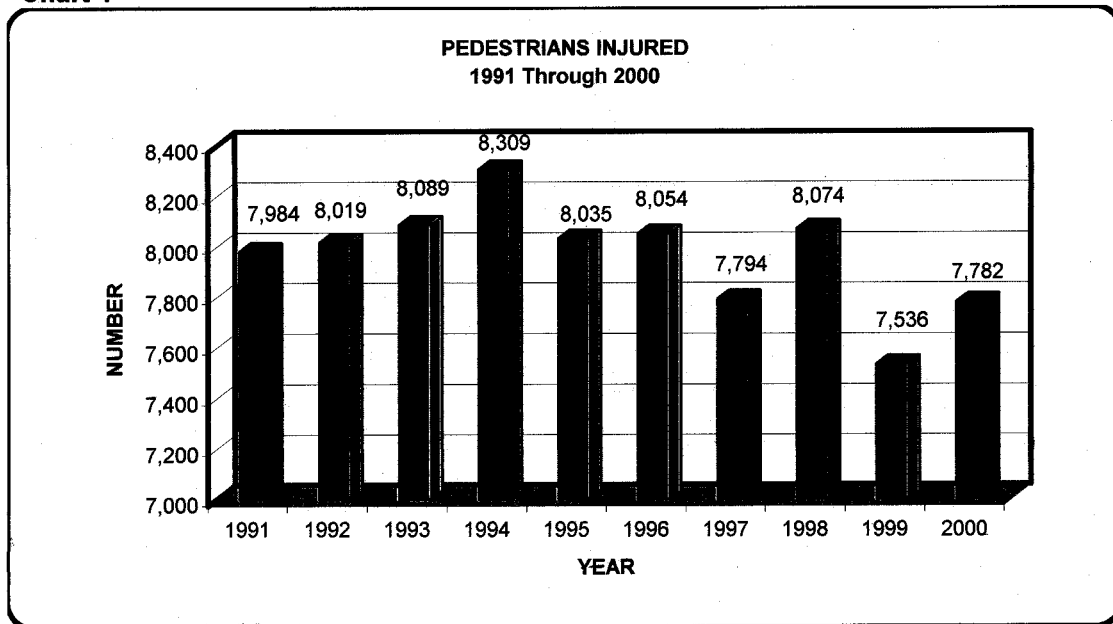


Chart 4



Definition of terms

(Continued)

2000 Florida Traffic Crash Facts

Motorcycle	A motor vehicle, with a seat or saddle for the driver's use, traveling with no more than three wheels in contact with the ground, excluding a tractor or a moped.
Motorcyclist	The driver of a motorcycle. A passenger on a motorcycle is considered a vehicle passenger.
Property damage only crash	Loss of all or part of an individual's property resulting from a traffic crash not involving injury to a person.
Traffic crash	A crash involving at least one motor vehicle on a roadway that is open to the public.
Traffic fatality	The death of a person as a direct result of a traffic crash within thirty days of the crash occurrence.
Vehicle occupants	Drivers and passengers of automobiles, vans, trucks, buses, and motor homes.
Long form	Refers to a crash report prepared by a law enforcement officer when the driver of a vehicle involved in a crash resulting in bodily injury to or death of a person or where a criminal offense has been committed.
Short form	Refers to a crash report in which the threshold of the long form does not apply. Therefore, a long form report is not prepared. In crashes where apparent damage is less than \$500, the law enforcement officer shall provide each party involved in the crash a short form prescribed by the state, to be completed by the party.

State of Florida Summary

2000 Florida Traffic Crash Facts

ALL CRASHES

Compared to 1999, there was a 1.29% increase in traffic crashes investigated and reported.

Traffic crashes.....	246,541
Drivers involved.....	369,875
Average crashes per day	674

FATAL CRASHES AND FATALITIES

Compared to 1999, there was a 2.71% increase in traffic fatalities.

Fatalities	2,999
Fatal crashes.....	2,733

INJURY CRASHES

Compared to 1999, there was a .27% decrease in traffic injuries.

Possible injuries	124,454
Non-incapacitating injuries	77,428
Incapacitating injuries.....	29,706
Total injuries	231,588
Injury crashes	144,096

ALCOHOL-RELATED CRASHES AND FATALITIES

32.6% of traffic fatalities and 9.6% of traffic crashes were alcohol-related. There was a .6% increase in both categories for the year 2000.

Alcohol-related fatalities	979
Alcohol-related injuries	19,775
Alcohol-related crashes.....	23,578
Alcohol-related fatal crashes.....	882
Alcohol-related injury crashes	12,064

CRASH ENVIRONMENTS

60.4% of all crashes occurred primarily in business areas, while 60.1% of fatal crashes were in open country or residential areas.

Crashes in Business Areas	148,864
Crashes in Residential Areas	70,783
Crashes in Open Country.....	26,894
Fatal Crashes in Business Areas	1,091
Fatal Crashes in Residential Areas	687
Fatal Crashes in Open Country.....	955

State of Florida Summary

2000 Florida Traffic Crash Facts

PEDESTRIAN CRASHES

16.9% of all traffic fatalities were pedestrians. There were 5 more pedestrian fatalities in 2000.

Pedestrians killed	506
Pedestrians injured.....	7,782
Pedestrian crashes*	8,454

BICYCLE CRASHES

2.8% of all traffic fatalities were bicycle drivers. There was a 29% decrease in this category.

Bicyclists killed	83
Bicyclists injured.....	4,618
Bicycle crashes*	5,054

MOTORCYCLE CRASHES

7.6% of all traffic fatalities were motorcycle drivers. There was a 46.5% increase in motorcycle fatalities in 2000.

Motorcyclists killed	227
Motorcyclists injured.....	4,474
Motorcycle crashes	5,073

*Pedestrian and bicycle crashes included all crashes involving pedestrians or bicycles.